



## A Passive (aggressive!) approach to energy use

**THIS NOVEMBER, BUILD BOSTON** features a comprehensive exploration of the Passive House standard by those who have helped it succeed in Europe and those on the forefront of its emergence in North America.

To whet the industry's appetite for learning more about this cutting-edge approach to design and construction, the BSA recently sat down with Dr. Harald Rohrer, who was visiting from Austria's

Alpen-Adria-University, and Paul Eldrenkamp, of Byggmeister and the DEAP Energy Group, to discuss Austria's great success in adopting the Passive House standard and how Massachusetts can emulate it.

### **How does Passive House compare with LEED?**

*Eldrenkamp:* The biggest difference is that LEED covers eight different categories, whereas Passive House covers just one directly.

One of the backlashes against LEED has been that LEED buildings really have not demonstrated significantly less energy usage than buildings built to code. For example, with LEED residential construction, you only need to hit the Energy Star standard, which is only 15 percent better than code.

With Passive House, it's all about the energy use. It dictates a very specific energy budget that you cannot exceed. By mainly focusing

Above: Residential buildings, Mühlweg, Vienna, designed by Hermann Kaufmann. Photograph by Bruno Klomfar.

on energy efficiency at the residential level, Passive Houses use only about one-fifth of the energy that a building constructed to code would use—for an 80 percent reduction in energy consumption.

(Continued, next page)





Austrian examples of Passive House building, top to bottom: residential buildings in Ölbündt, Dornbirn, designed by Hermann Kaufmann, photograph by Ignacio Martinez; mountain retreat Schiestlhaus in Hochschwab, designed by solar4alpin, photograph courtesy of Robert Freund, ÖGUT; Sandgrubenweg, Bregenz, designed by Architects Rhomberg & Partner.

(Continued from page 1)

#### How successful have Passive Houses been in Europe?

*Rohracher:* The first Passive Houses were built in Germany in the early 1990s by Wolfgang Feist in cooperation with Bo Adamson from Sweden. The concept spread to Austria a few years later, and now Austria has five times as many Passive Houses per capita as Germany. By the end of 2009, there were already close to 7,000 Passive Houses in Austria, and we are estimating that, by the end of this year, 25 percent of all new building construction in Austria will be to the Passive House standard. Around Europe, 22,500 Passive Houses have been built so far.

#### How much does it cost to build to the Passive House standard?

*Eldrenkamp:* In the U.S., it may cost only 5 to 10 percent more to design and build a new home to the Passive House standard. But we have found that while it's not impossible to retrofit an existing home to the Passive House standard, it's prohibitively expensive in most cases: sometimes equaling 80 percent of the cost of new construction.

*Rohracher:* It depends on what the building looks like and how easy it is to retrofit. I've just seen recent figures from Austria, where retrofitting to the Passive House standard cost on average only 10 to 15 percent more than standard renovations. Our experience in Austria is that, with new buildings, Passive House construction only costs 3 to 5 percent more than regular construction. The economics are getting better all the time, as we become more experienced and Passive House materials become cheaper and more widely available.

#### What is the state of Passive Houses in the United States?

*Eldrenkamp:* Currently, there are maybe only 10 certified Passive House buildings in the U.S., but there are many more under construction, in design and in the pipeline.

#### What are the barriers to moving toward adopting the Passive House standard?

*Eldrenkamp:* One barrier is the general availability of components. We have not traditionally asked much of windows in the U.S., and the difference between the window you can use in a Passive House and the window that meets code is huge. You're doubling or tripling the cost of your windows right there.

There's also consumer resistance to certain components. In a Passive House, you probably want to go with casement windows rather than double-hung windows. You likely want to have an electric range top rather than a gas cooktop. You definitely don't want an open fireplace.

And then there are the perceived design limitations. Architects will find that they need to have simpler geometries. They have to do their floor plan layout so that most of the glass can face south.

*Rohracher:* Many of these issues were also barriers to adoption in Europe. Many of them still are. And many of them you can work around. Europe also has had the same problems in terms of perception. It was so very important to show that you can make very good architecture and still meet the energy-efficiency standards. The proponents of Passive Houses would say that great architecture always comes from working with or against certain resistances and limitations.

For more of this discussion and an image gallery of Passive House design, visit [architects.org/chapterletter](http://architects.org/chapterletter).



## News from the Hill

**PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY** for the architecture profession are core to the BSA's mission. The following is a brief summary of some important legislative efforts at the state level.

Supporters of amending the existing Mechanics Lien Law to include design professionals within its protections (HB 1769 and SB 1806) report that a consensus version of the two bills may be discharged from the Joint Committee on Judiciary with a favorable report before the close of the legislative session on July 31, although full approval by the legislature is not expected this year. Massachusetts is one of the few states that do not currently have a law that allows architects to place a lien on properties for non-payment before construction has occurred.

A provision within the Senate Ways & Means Committee's proposed FY 2011 budget would extend the 2011 "sunset" date for the Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit to 2017. Once the Senate passes this budget, the differences between the House and Senate budget will be worked out by a conference committee of selected House and Senate members. Upon completion of conference committee work, the budget will be presented to the governor for his signature. Legislative rules require the budget to be passed before the end of the session on July 31.



Both House and Senate versions of a Municipal Relief Act (SB 2424 and HB 4526) contain provisions for PACE (Property-Assessed Clean Energy) bonds: an innovative new way for municipalities to pay for building energy-efficiency improvements and renewable energy generation by selling municipal bonds tied to the value of private property, financing improvements to the property and marginally raising property taxes. In theory, building owners' energy savings would be greater than the property tax increases.

For more information or to get involved with AIA Massachusetts advocacy efforts, contact Government Affairs Committee co-chairs Mike Davis FAIA at [mdavis@bergmeyer.com](mailto:mdavis@bergmeyer.com) and John Nunnari Assoc. AIA at [jnunnari@architects.org](mailto:jnunnari@architects.org).



## BSA setting future course with board initiatives

**THE BSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS** has been hard at work on important initiatives this summer and encourages feedback from all BSA members.

Following discussions with BSA leaders and staff members, Search Committee chairs Chris Iwerks AIA and Keith Moskow AIA offered the board a series of recommendations to guide the BSA through a new search for an executive director. They have recommended engaging the firm of E. Catlin Donnelly & Associates to recruit and screen candidates through what is expected to be about a six-month process.

Board members Ted Landmark Assoc. AIA and Matt Kiefer chair the Governance Committee, which is charged with reviewing the BSA bylaws and recommending appropriate updates. This committee expects to complete its review by late summer.

The Planning Committee is reviewing and updating the BSA 2004 long-range plan and identifying current trends affecting the building and design industries and membership organizations. Chaired by past BSA president Diane Georgopoulos FAIA and BSA board member George Takoudes AIA, this committee will complete its assessment during 2010 and looks forward to working with the next executive director on additional planning initiatives.

The BSA board also continues to investigate the possibility of opening a new headquarters and exhibition space at Atlantic Wharf (also known as Russia Wharf). A final determination on the viability of such a move is expected later this summer.

We will continue to report the progress of these committees in the ChapterLetter and on the BSA website. If you have questions, please contact BSA interim co-directors Ann Fienman, at [afienman@architects.org](mailto:afienman@architects.org) or 617-951-1433 x233, or Eric White, at [ewhite@architects.org](mailto:ewhite@architects.org) or 617-951-1433 x225.

Above: Atlantic Wharf.



# Five lessons learned when pursuing architectural registration

by Matthew Carlton AIA, LEED AP of Simpson Gumpertz & Heger and Todd Pollock AIA, LEED AP of TRO Jung|Brannen

**PURSUING ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION** can be a grueling and long process. Here are five tips to make it less arduous.

- Don't jump in the pool before you know how to swim. Even though you can start the exams early, we recommend that you participate in a true Intern Development Program (IDP). The process, designed by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), gives you exposure to all facets of the architectural profession through real-world experience.
- Nothing in the world is free, especially professional registrations. You'll encounter your first fee even before you're

authorized to take the first exam. Don't let the cost of registration, IDP records, state boards and so on discourage you. Many employers encourage professional registration and development; it's worth inquiring if your employer can help defray some of the costs.

time: during your commute, in a waiting room—even at the beach. Instead of catching the latest gossip on your lunch break, you could be on the ARE forum ([areforum.com](http://areforum.com)) which has exam experiences from candidates across the country. Invest in your career and start studying now.



The co-authors and the other members of their ARE Success Team, from left to right: Michael Britton AIA, Matthew Carlton AIA, LEED AP, Clinton J. Wilbur AIA, Sarah Zarum and Todd Pollock AIA.

- Five heads are better than one. Preparing for the Architectural Registration Exam (ARE) can be daunting alone—so join an ARE Success Team (see below)! A study group offers a comfortable environment where you can ask questions on unfamiliar subjects and engage people of different architectural backgrounds and experiences. Plus, you'll create friendships and networks that could last throughout your career. Most find the study group to be the most fulfilling part of the exam process.
- There's no time like the present. By managing your day carefully, you can fit in plenty of study
- Don't cry over spilled milk, or test results. Your level of commitment—and your patience—will be tested again and again throughout the registration process. Exam results can take months to receive, so count on some nail-biting and use that time to begin studying for the next exam. If you do receive less than desirable results, take comfort in the fact that most candidates fail at least one exam. After you've dried your eyes, call an ARE Success Teams teammate and vow to get through the exam together. There is strength in numbers, especially architectural registration numbers.

**Form a support network and plow through your AREs together!** Meet up on July 22 at 6:00 pm at The Architects Building, where ARE Success Teams will be formed and much pizza consumed. We match you up according to your study preferences and offer Kaplan study materials and free meeting spaces. You pledge to support your teammates through the ARE process and make headway in your professional development. Learn more and register at [architects.org/aresuccess](http://architects.org/aresuccess).

From September 7 through October 26, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger offers its **popular eight-part review course for the Structural Systems division of the ARE** at the company's Waltham offices. To register for the \$350 course, contact Matt Carlton AIA, LEED AP at [mccarlton@sgh.com](mailto:mccarlton@sgh.com) or 781-907-9381 by July 30.



## Get all the CEs you need this summer

The 2010 BSA Design/Practice workshop series is a great way to earn all the AIA Learning Units and Massachusetts state continuing-education credits you need this summer.

Over July and August, the BSA welcomes a host of expert speakers to The Architects Building. Passive House New England (see page 1) tackles this cutting-edge standard for dramatically reducing buildings' energy usage. R.W. Sullivan Engineering offers a comprehensive series looking at codes. Green Education Services and Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships explore the latest in sustainable design and construction. Find a complete schedule and register at [architects.org/workshops](http://architects.org/workshops).

### License renewal deadline looms

License certificates for Massachusetts architects expire on August 31 each year, and a lapsed license can have very serious consequences. Visit [mass.gov/dpl](http://mass.gov/dpl) to check your license status and make sure the Massachusetts Board of Registration has your current address so you receive your renewal form.

To renew your Massachusetts license, you must certify that you have completed 12 continuing-education credits, including 8 on Health, Safety and Welfare (HSW) topics. To make sure you are on track to complete the annual requirement for 12 continuing-education credits by August 31, review your AIA transcript online at [aia.org/education](http://aia.org/education).

### \$60,000 available in research grants

Are you a design practitioner with a fabulous, multidisciplinary idea? Applications for BSA Research Grants are due September 17. View submission guidelines at [architects.org/grants](http://architects.org/grants).

### Teach the value of design on our dime

The Boston Foundation for Architecture seeks grant proposals for projects intended to elevate public understanding of design and the built environment. Anyone with a good idea is encouraged to apply by August 6. For an application and guidelines, or to make a donation to the BFA, visit [bfragrants.org](http://bfragrants.org).

### Build Boston and RDC photo exhibit: call for entries

Architects, landscape architects and interior designers practicing in New England are encouraged to submit photographs for consideration in the photo exhibits at Build Boston and Residential Design and Construction, where tens of thousands of professionals and potential clients will be able to view your work. Submissions are due July 30 at [architects.org/awards](http://architects.org/awards).



### Celebrating the CDRC

A wide array of supporters, volunteers, government officials and community leaders joined the BSA-funded Community Design Resource Center (CDRC) of Boston at its 2010 Project Showcase in June. The event welcomed a new 18-member advisory board and celebrated seven recently completed projects, including the reuse of an industrial riverfront site in Braintree, a community visioning effort in Chelsea and a dynamic new development for the Haley House Bakery and Cafe in Dudley Square.

The CDRC advisory board includes Bob Baldwin of Qroe Preservation Development, Sarah Barnat of Trinity Financial, Polly Carpenter AIA of Learning By Design, David Ennis of Affirmative Investments, Mary Gately of AGC of MA, Diane Georgopoulos FAIA of MassHousing, Deborah Goddard of DHCD, Taran Grigsby of Mayo Group, Christina Lanzl of Urban Arts Institute, Susan Lapiere of Cambridge Savings Bank, Nancy Ludwig FAIA of ICON architecture and George Metzger AIA of HMFH Architects.

In the past three and a half years, CDRC has assisted 21 community organizations and municipalities, engaged more than 48 design firms and provided 4,200 hours of pro-bono work—as recorded in the graphic above (designed by littleBigbird)—for \$630,000 worth of preliminary design and engagement services to help communities.



### SHIFTboston: call for entries

Have you thought about inflatable structures, lunar habitats or growing pods lately? SHIFTboston seeks entries by September 3 for its juried MOON CAPITAL competition, which embraces the growing field of space architecture. Learn more at [shiftboston.org](http://shiftboston.org).



## People and firms

**Ann M. Beha FAIA** and **Pamela W. Hawkes FAIA** of **Ann Beha Architects** were honored by Preservation Massachusetts' inaugural Paul E. Tsongas Profiles in Preservation for their contribution to historic preservation in Massachusetts.

**Arthur Cohen FAIA, LEED AP** of **ARC/Architectural Resources Cambridge** was a panelist for the Boston Life Sciences Real Estate Summit organized by Boston/SF.

**Bruner/Cott & Associates** welcomes senior interior design architect Karen Greene RA, LEED, architectural staff Michael Heise and senior project managers Michael Kyes LEED, Susan Morgan Assoc. AIA, LEED, Gretchen Neeley and Henry Scollard LEED. **Jason Forney AIA, LEED** presented the "Business Case for Low-Energy Building and Renovation" at the Integrated Design/Integrated Development Sustainable Design Symposium.

Kevin Moore has been appointed to lead corporate development efforts for **Burt Hill**.

**Justin Crane Assoc. AIA (1)** of **Cambridge Seven Associates** and a Carol R. Johnson Associates landscape architect led a guided tour of Cambridge's innovative designs of sidewalks and streets for pedestrians as part of WalkBoston's efforts to encourage walkable cities. **Peter Kuttner FAIA (2)** served as a jury member for the AIA North Virginia Awards and will speak at the AIA North Carolina State Conference in Asheville in September. **Gary Johnson AIA** presented to the Hospitality Council at the Urban Land Institute conference. **Douglas Lawton AIA** was interviewed in *Direct Connection: A Publication of NCARB* on his role in the firm's IDP.

David Perry joins **ci design** as principal in charge of academic and nonprofit clients.

**Diane Dooley AIA, LEED AP** of **DiMella Shaffer** spoke at the ULI and AJAS annual conference on the first Urban Green House, The Leonard Florence Center for Living in Chelsea. The firm received the 2010 American In-House Graphic Design Awards for the third consecutive year for both print collateral and environmental graphics.

**Einhorn Yaffee Prescott Architecture and Engineering** promoted Valerie Towe LEED AP to resource director. Vice president of design and expertise **Leila Kamal AIA, LEED AP (3)** has been elected to the firm's board of directors.

**James Alexander FAIA, LEED AP (4)** and Elizabeth Wylie LEED AP (5) of **Finergold Alexander + Associates** presented at the Building Museums Symposium on "Green Makeover of Ellis Island." Alexander received an inaugural Paul E. Tsongas Profiles in Preservation Award from Preservation Massachusetts and presented on historic preservation

and sustainability standards at "Getting the Very Best: Applying and Complying with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties" workshop. The firm and Arup received the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts 2010 Silver Award for Outstanding Professional Design Excellence completed on the Lowell Trial Court Zero Net Energy Study. Wylie will chair a session on "Greening Your Museum: What Is Measured Gets Done" at the American Association of Museum's annual conference in Los Angeles.

**David Grissino AIA, LEED AP** of **Goody Clancy** received a 2010 AIA Young Architects Award. **Jean Carroon FAIA, LEED** led a seminar on "Green Strategies for Historic Buildings" presented by the National Preservation Institute and hosted by the Preservation League of New York State, AIA New York State and the Landmark Society of Western New York. Carroon and the late **Joan Goody FAIA** were recognized as Paul E. Tsongas Profiles in Preservation Award-winners by Preservation Massachusetts. **David Dixon FAIA, LEED** spoke on "The Masterplan for New Orleans" and "Designing Density That Works" at the AIA National Convention. The Aga Khan University FAS/University Village land-use plan received a SCUP Merit Award for Excellence in Planning for a District or Campus Component. The American Architectural Foundation selected the central Annapolis road sector plan and the Shreveport-Caddo 2030 masterplan to participate in its Sustainable Cities Design Academy. Lisa Howe LEED and Jill Verhosek LEED presented "Using Technology to Reveal a Building's Construction History at the U.S. Bankruptcy Courthouse, Brooklyn, NY" at the Construction History Society of America's biannual meeting. The firm hosted a Citizens School apprenticeship for Washington Irving School students.

**Gund Partnership** received an AIA Housing Award for the adaptive reuse of the Waterworks at Chestnut Hill, a project featured at the AIA National Convention in Miami. The National Association of REALTORS building in Washington, D.C. was a finalist for an Urban Land Institute American Award for Excellence. Peirce Hall at Kenyon College received a SCUP Merit Award and The Ohio State University's Thompson Library received a SCUP Special Citation for Design Excellence. Thompson Library was published in the American Libraries Architecture Showcase, and the firm exhibited at the American Library Association's annual conference and exhibition. **John Prokos FAIA, LEED AP (6)** and **Holly Miller AIA, LEED AP (7)** were featured in "Paying it Forward: Guiding Architects of the Future" in *Direct Connection: A Publication of NCARB*. **Graham Gund FAIA, LEED AP (8)** spoke at the dedication of the Horace

Dutton Taft Hall at the Taft School in Watertown, Connecticut.

Kerry Heckman SDA is now national vice president at the Society for Design Administration.

**Laura Wernick AIA, LEED AP, REFP (9)** of **HMFH Architects** spoke to Boston's Umana Middle School Academy middle-school girls on architecture, career exploration and teamwork/sports for America SCORES New England. The firm welcomes associates Seong-Il Ahn LEED AP (10) and **Matthew LaRue AIA (11)**.

**Hutker Architects** welcomes **Lyman Perry AIA**.

**Integrated Design Group** welcomes architectural staff **Tom MacLeod AIA, LEED AP, Eric Boatright AIA, Erika DeRoche Assoc. AIA** and Jim Lee LEED AP and project managers Carl Auguste LEED AP, **Chad Fowler AIA, LEED AP** and John Moran LEED AP.

Martin Batt Architects has changed its name to **Isgenuity** to reflect its growing firm and management structure.

The Academy of Music Ballroom by **KlingStubbins** received Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia's Interior Restoration Award.

**LDa Architects** received third place in the Pioneer Valley Development Council's Smart Growth Ideas competition.

**Leers Weinzapfel Associates** and Fumihiko Maki and Associates' MIT Media Lab was dedicated. The lab was featured in *The Architect's Newspaper* and will be covered in *Architectural Record*. **Andrea Leers FAIA** presented a public lecture on "A Campus in the City" in Paris. The work of two students in Leers' studio, Sarah Thomas and Ming Thompson, was included in an exhibition at the Cité Universitaire, Paris.

Michael Kim of Michael Kim Associates has been elected the new chair of the Designer Selection Board at the Massachusetts Department of Capital Asset Management. Kim, who has served as the BSA representative to the DSB since 2007, will serve a two-year term as chair.

**Next Phase Studios** received a Merit Award at the Integrated Design/Integrated Development Excellence in Sustainable Design and Development Program conference at AIA New Hampshire for the LEED Platinum Hannaford Brothers grocery store in Augusta, Maine.

The Office of Michael Rosenfeld, Inc., Architects has changed its name to **OMR Architects**.

**Shepley Bulfinch** welcomes Jean Kim and Eric Haggstrom. Ming Yan of Clemson is this year's Summer Design Fellow. **Tom Kearns AIA, LEED AP** and **Steve Erwin AIA, LEED AP** presented on trends in campus design at the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities conference. **Ralph Jackson FAIA**

(12) was interviewed in *Air Tran's* magazine. The firm hosted the Greater Boston 2010 Affordable Housing Development Competition awards ceremony. The firm's 16-member team placed fifth in the Architecture for Humanity 5K Run/Walk.

**The Architectural Team** welcomes project manager Abe Brahmachari and marketing communications and PR manager Valerie Capone.

**Tsoi/Kobus & Associates** received a 2010 Green Business Award from the *Boston Business Journal*. **Rick Kobus FAIA (13)**, **Steve Oppenheimer AIA (14)** and Sara Mills-Knapp (15) were recognized in the Innovation category for their work on "The Cost of LEED," a first-of-its-kind tool for evaluating sustainable design strategies. The firm received two American In-house Design Awards from GD USA. The firm made *Engineering News-Record's* annual list of the "Top 500 Design Firms" and was named one of the "Area's Largest Interior Design Firms" by the *Boston Business Journal*. The firm has signed on to participate in A Better City's Challenge for Sustainability and Building Impact's R.E.Action 2010. Jocelyn Frederick (16) published an essay in *World Health Design*. **Greg Luongo AIA (17)** participated in a healthcare real estate roundtable moderated by the *Boston Business Journal's* Eric Convey.

**William Rawn Associates** received a 2010 Housing Award from national AIA for Alice Paul and David Kemp Residence Halls at Swarthmore College. Reflecting Swarthmore's long-term engagement with environmental issues, the buildings incorporate sustainable design features, including abundant natural light and a green roof.

**XChange Architects'** entry in the WPA 2.0 ideas competition sponsored by UCLA's cityLAB, entitled "Project Runway," is a jury selection for the WPA 2.0 online exhibition and gallery. The firm's proposal to reimagine the latent renewable energy in aviation infrastructure, led by **Derrick Choi AIA, LEED AP, NCARB (18)**, was selected from more than 300 competition entries.

Portrait credits, page 7:

- 2, Liz Linder.
- 3, EYP.
- 4-5, Bruce Rogovin.
- 6, Chuck Choi.
- 7-8, Mark Ostow.
- 9-11, HMFH.
- 12, VHB.
- 13-17, Bruce Rogovin.
- 18, XChange Architects.
- 19-20, Acentech.
- 21, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger.





## New work

**Ann Beha Architects** is designing the new Milton Friedman Institute for Research in Economics and Department of Economics project for the University of Chicago. The project will repurpose and expand the historic Chicago Theological Seminary to house the institute and department, faculty and graduate students, classrooms, seminar and conference facilities, a library and other collaborative spaces. The firm is working on a planning study for historic Chapin Hall at Williams College.

**Cambridge Seven Associates** is designing net-zero family housing in Devens for MassDevelopment, renovations to the Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach, Florida, renovations to the Merrimack College's Lawler Arena and renovations to the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum in Baltimore. The firm is working with the New England Aquarium to upgrade and renovate its giant ocean tank. Construction has begun on the Hard Rock Cafe in Waikiki, designed for LEED Gold certification. The firm completed renovations at Discovery Place, and the museum's new signature exhibit, *World Alive*, which just opened in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Worcester Business Development Corporation awarded the 2010 Bowditch Award for Economic Development to Dr. Charles and Janet Birbara, owners of the Beechwood Hotel, which opened a new 220-seat restaurant and conference space designed by the firm.

**Cannon Design** is designing a new Student Wellness and Recreation Center for Georgia College and State University. The project includes wellness programs, student health services, multipurpose rooms, a fitness center, a three-court gymnasium, an indoor pool and a climbing wall. The new home of Fletcher Allen Healthcare's radiation oncology department is a 22,400-sf building recessed into grade on three sides, with a landscaped green roof and skylights that draw daylight into circulation spaces. Garden areas enhance the healing environment by providing a visual connection to nature.

**CBT's** new projects include Stoughton Public Library addition and renovation; Middlesex School Performing Arts Center and Residence Hall concept design; renovations at Phillips Andover Peabody Museum; and the 59,814-sf senior residence hall at Holy Cross. The CBT Habitat House is now complete. The firm helped South Shore Habitat for Humanity construct its first "green" house by providing pro-bono design services and contributing \$50,000 toward construction costs.

**Centrepont Architects** and Tremont Preservation Services are working on renovations to 60 East Springfield Street for Gullwing Realty. The building, which is being designed for LEED Gold certification and qualifies for historic preservation and rehabilitation tax credits, includes commercial space on the ground floor and five residential rental units on the upper levels.

New work by **ci design** includes Muller mixed-use mall in Aleppo, Syria; Muscat CityCenter mixed-use complex in Oman; Oak Harbor Harbor Resort Hotel in Destin Beach, Florida; Silver Sands mixed-use complex expansion and renovation in Destin, Florida; Lutherville Station in Lutherville, Maryland; Pinebrook mixed-use center in Mobile, Alabama; and The District mixed-use complex in Pleasantville, New Jersey.

New work by **DiMella Shaffer** includes the Tech Review/The MIT News Office—a new office for publishers, writers, editors and graphic designers focused on several MIT-related publications—and residence hall improvements on the Simmons College campus that focus on upgrades to the common areas.

New and recent work by **Fennick McCredie Architecture** includes workspace renovations for Cetrulo & Capone law firm and the new Haverhill Intermodal Center for the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority.

**Finegold Alexander + Associates** is working on the Holyoke Public Library project, a renovation and expansion of the 1902 Greek Revival building designed by James Clough. Also in Holyoke, the firm is working with VHB/Vanassee Hagen Brustlin on renovations to the PVTa Bus Terminal.

**Flansburgh Associates** is working on schematic masterplans for the American School of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the International School of Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia.

**ICON architecture** has begun construction drawings for Webster Block, a mixed-use, 120-unit residential project with ground-level parking garage and 5,000 sf of retail space in Chelsea.

**Integrated Design Group** is working on data center design projects for Digital Realty Trust in Dallas, Texas, Ashburn, Virginia, Bedford and Wakefield; Thomson Reuters in Hazelwood, Missouri and Hartland, Wisconsin; EMC in Franklin; MathWorks in Natick; Citizens Bank in East Providence, Rhode Island, and Medford; and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in the western U.S.

**LDa Architects** is completing a feasibility study for the Saint Bonaventure Parish in Manomet and designing a multifamily housing project in Vineyard Haven for the Island Housing Trust on Martha's Vineyard.

**Leers Weinzapfel Associates** completed construction documents on the new social sciences and classroom buildings at the University of Connecticut and is working on the new Taunton Trial Court, the Dudley Square Police Station and the Brown University Metcalf renovation project.

**McManus Architects'** design for the New Balance Foundation Marine Mammal Center now sited on Boston's waterfront at Central Wharf replaces an assortment of service structures. The addition, together with a terrace designed by the Halvorson Design Partnership, provides the New England Aquarium with major new public spaces facing the harbor.

An experienced group of architects, contractors, lawyers, owners and developers work together on an ongoing basis to ensure **AIA Contract Docs** represent all parties fairly and meet the industry's ever-evolving needs. In addition to being the industry's most widely accepted contracts, AIA Contract Docs have the most user-friendly software.

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The *Boston Globe Magazine* featured the Harrison-Sullivan residence remodeling in Marblehead by Ed Nilsson AIA of Nilsson + Siden Associates. Photo: Lucy Chen.



CBT's renovation and repositioning of the 225 Franklin Street lobby received Internazionale Marmi e Macchine Carrara's 2010 Marble Architectural Award. Photo: Anton Grassl/Esto.



The Leonard Florence Center for Living, built by Erland Construction, received the Project of the Year Award from Construction Managers Association of America New England chapter in the New Construction Under \$30 Million category. The firm's commitment to the center extended beyond building: The company was a corporate sponsor for the second annual Walk to Defeat ALS, raising more than \$10,000. Photo: Dave Desroches.



Goody Clancy is working on the DC Streetcar masterplan in Washington, D.C. The firm completed the south residence halls and dining facility at the University of Chicago (above). The 331,000-sf, 800-bed residence hall with adjacent dining facility is comprised of eight houses in a variety of living configurations. Photo: Anton Grassl/Esto.



Tsoi/Kobus & Associates' Community Build project at Putnam Place received a 2010 Inspirations Award from *Contract* magazine. The award honors the use of design to improve the quality of life for those in need and comes with a \$5,000 grant for Cambridge Family & Children's Service, which operates Putnam Place. Photo: Robert Benson.

**OMR Architects** completed the Pilgrimage Math and Science Center at New Hampton School.

**rauhaus freedenfeld & associates** is designing the Westfield Veterinary Hospital in Westfield, New Jersey, the P.A.W.S. Animal Shelter in Tinley Park, Illinois and the Lunenburg Pet Care Center in Lunenburg. The design of this pet-care center includes the Lunenburg Veterinary Hospital, Preppy Pet Suites and Absolute K-9 Solutions.

**The Architectural Team** is working on the major urban redesign of the Old Colony affordable-housing development in South Boston. This sustainable new development is being designed to Enterprise Green standards. Construction is underway on the new state-of-the-art Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps

Community Center in the Uphams Corner area in Dorchester. The center is scheduled to open in early 2011—becoming the largest social-service development project in the history of Massachusetts and offering local residents athletic, educational, religious and arts program space in addition to health and social services.

**William Rawns Associates** is designing a new student center at Miami University with BHPD Architecture. The 200,000-sf building, which will pursue LEED Silver certification, will serve as a hub of student activity, providing large-event space, a 515-seat theater, student organization offices, lounges and study areas, and 24-hour food service.



Shepley Bulfinch is beginning an 18,800-sf dining hall renovation project at Colorado College. The renovation of Atlanta University Center's Woodruff Library (above), which opened in January, featured glazed panels that can be lowered to separate the 24-hour area from the rest of the facility after hours. Construction has begun on Xavier University's 240,000-sf residence hall and dining complex. Photo: Kat Nania.





The MZO Group completed a loft renovation in The Woodlands, Texas. A custom home is also being planned on a cattle ranch on 300 acres north of Houston, Texas. Photo: Ted Washington.



The Energy Lab at Hawaii Preparatory Academy designed by Flansburgh Associates won an IDID Honor Award from AIA New Hampshire. The project will meet the Living Building Challenge, a sustainable design threshold that exceeds LEED Platinum. Photo: Matthew Millman Photography.



Kallmann McKinnell & Wood Architects completed the 500-seat performance hall at the Miller Performing Arts Center at Alfred University; is completing the Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center in Stowe, Vermont (above); and will complete the College of Business at the University of Wyoming in Laramie. Construction has begun on the new Lindsay Center for Mathematics and Science at the St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire. Photo: Kallmann McKinnell & Wood Architects.



Finegold Alexander + Associates received the Washington AIA's Award of Excellence in Historic Resources for work performed on the Boston Opera House. Photo: Whitney Cox Photography.



ARC/Architectural Resources Cambridge's Tufts University School of Dental Medicine vertical expansion project is LEED Silver-certified. Photo: Alonso Nichols.

## Corporate affiliate news

**Acentech** provided consulting and design services for The Ansini Building of Fenway Health, a new state-of-the-art health facility and research center in Boston's West Fens with Anshen + Allen. Dr. Richard Lyon (19) and Dr. Eric Ungar PE (20) have been designated Fellows of the Institute of Noise Control Engineering of the USA.

**Advanced Signing's** work includes interior atrium signage for Equity Office at Riverside Center, exterior property rebranding with Duffy Properties at Waverley Oaks Office Park in Waltham and rebranding of a main entrance sign at Westboro Executive Park for **Jones Lang LaSalle**.

**A.J. Martini, Inc.** completed renovations to Union College's Schaffer Library's special collections/archives wing in Schenectady, New York with Sacco + McKinney Architects and an interior renovation of five office suites for The Congress Group in Miami with Slack Alvarez Associates.

**Bond Brothers'** work includes Wheaton College Science Center with Einhorn Yaffee Prescott Architecture & Engineering; Boston University laboratory animal-care facility with Wilson Architects; Bentley University's Miller Hall with R E Dinneen Architects & Planners; Harvard Law School life-safety upgrades with Austin Architects; Smith College Sabin-Reed Science Center with R E Dinneen Architects & Planners; Harvard School of Public Health Building 1 renovations with

Janovsky/Hurley Architects; MIT Hayden Library with WSP Flack + Kurtz and Imai Keller Moore Architects; MIT E15 renovations with Design Partnership of Cambridge; Dana Farber JF609 irradiator with Miller Dyer Spears; Bridgewater State College Swenson Field with Gale Associates; MIT Magnet Lab with Imai Keller Moore Architects; Northeastern Ryder Hall with Miller Dyer Spears; MIT Lincoln Laboratory haystack project; National Grid Kent County substation, Rhode Island; major natural gas transmission and chromatograph building projects throughout New England; Boston University utility relocations; Boston Generating; and Harvard University nitrogen tank relocation.

Industry professionals connected at the Art & Design of the 20th and 21st Centuries (AD20/21) Gala Preview,

the **Boston Architectural College's** annual fundraising event.

**Carol R. Johnson Associates** is designing the site of a new 13.8-hectare residential development in Chongqing, Sichuan Province; an on-call consulting contract with the University of Connecticut for landscape-improvement projects on its various campuses; working with The Smith Group to plan for the future construction of a new dental school building for Boston University; working with BH+A Architects to develop preliminary designs for the rehabilitation of the Childs Park within the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Bushkill, Pennsylvania; working with Robert Siegel Architects to design the site of a new Temple of Meditation on the Roger Williams University



campus in Bristol, Rhode Island; and working with UMass/Lowell to develop landscape guidelines for short-term recommendations for landscape improvements.

**C.E. Floyd Co.** completed beach and dining pavilions at Country Club of Fairfield in Connecticut with James G. Rogers Architects; capital improvement projects at Bryant University with Wozny/Barbar & Associates; an addition to a residence in Andover with Rob Bramhall Architects; and the corporate headquarters of Injured Worker's Pharmacy with EGA Architects.

Recent **Columbia Construction** projects include construction management services for Four Points by Sheraton Norwood for Hobbs Brook Management with Allegro Interior Architecture; a 12,000-sf renovation for MIT Technology Review at One Main Street, Cambridge with CBRE, DiMella Shaffer and WB Engineering Consultants; deferred maintenance services to Tufts University at West and Hill Halls; a facade renovation for Millennium Hotel and Resorts at the Millennium Bostonian Hotel; and construction of a 90,000-sf Replacement Hospital at Martha's Vineyard with Thomas Miller Partners.

**Commodore Builders** welcomes project executive Jim Loud, superintendents Paul Genereux and Al Tocci, project managers Tom Ensminger, Nick Brown and Stacy Roman, APMs Laurent Sika, Jean Benoit and Laura Crawford, and proposal manager Rebecca Roy. Recent projects include construction of Fish & Richardson's office at One Marina Park Drive; Dowling Houy LLC and RDK with ADD Inc.; Bluefin Robotics' headquarters relocation to the Quincy Shipyard with Schur Program Management and Jacobs Engineering Group; tenant interior for TJX in Framingham with Gensler; renovations to multiple New England childcare centers for Bright Horizons with Horizons Design; the new Burlington branch for Sovereign with SMMA/Symmes Maini & McKee Associates; numerous projects

at MIT; the Main Group Bundled project, encompassing renovations to classrooms, labs and corridors within the historic Main Group; installing new fire alarm and sprinkler systems in Building W61 with Hughes Associates; renovations to Cambridge Innovation Center with Studio TROIKA at One Broadway; the Society of St. John the Evangelist historic restoration and renovation project on Memorial Drive in Cambridge with HKT Architects; renovating 10 Stone Avenue for Boston College with Perry and Radford Architects; and renovations to Ballou Hall and The Hillel Center with Russo Barr Associates on the campus of Tufts University.

**Daniel O'Connell's Sons** is at work on a landscape-improvement project at Bennington College's Visual and Performing Arts Center with Reed Hilderbrand Associates. Also at Bennington College, the firm is construction manager for the Center for Advancement of Public Action with Tod Williams Billie Tsien & Associates and Reed Hilderbrand Associates.

**Erland Construction** is working on a renovation and consolidation project for Cobham Plc at 1001 Pawtucket Boulevard in Lowell with Design Science and completed a multiphased, fast-track renovation project for Nordblom Company and Avid Technology, moving Avid from their former headquarters in Tewksbury to Burlington.

**Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates** is working on engineering and design services for the towns of Braintree and Weymouth to revitalize Weymouth Landing, implementing streetscape and infrastructure improvements to create a village center and "gateway" for both communities. The firm is leading the public involvement process on the future of I-81 for the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council and, with Toole Design, serving as on-call bike facilities design and planning consultants for the City of Boston for the next three years.

**Jones Lang LaSalle's** work includes a project for Merrimack Pharmaceuticals in Building 700 of

One Kendall Square, Cambridge; interior construction for Charles River Labs; a tenant-improvement assignment for UnitedHealthGroup/Americhoice in Rocky Hill, Connecticut; a 25,000-sf fit-up for iCare in Farmington, Connecticut; a build-out for Boston University at 72 East Concord Street, Boston; and an interior assignment for Silicon Valley Bank at 275 Grove Street, Newton.

**Midland Construction's** new and recent work includes renovations for the Consulate General of Japan at 600 Atlantic Avenue with Perkins + Will and **WSP Flack + Kurtz** and renovations for Total Clerical Services at 18 Tremont St with Fusion Design Consultants.

**Nitsch Engineering** received an American Council of Engineering Companies/MA 2010 Engineering Excellence Silver Award and the inaugural Judges Award for Innovation in Sustainability for the Kroon Hall rainwater system at Yale University. The company continued its 20th anniversary celebration by hosting two client seminars: "Green and Complete Streets: The Future of Transportation Design" and "Stormwater Master Planning." The firm was in the first class to graduate from the Boston Sustainable Business Leader Program. Nicole Holmes presented "Poetic Infrastructures and Landscape for Site Design" with OLIN Studio for the Department of Landscape Architecture at Rhode Island School of Design.

The Associated General Contractors of America recognized MIT's Grand Dome restoration project with a 2010 Aon Build America Award in the Construction Management Renovation category. **Simpson Gumpertz & Heger** contributed to the project by designing waterproofing repairs that addressed performance and constructability goals. The American Concrete Institute (ACI) named Dominic Kelly (21) an ACI Fellow for his contributions to the society over the last 12 years.

**Skanska USA** is working on a \$29 million contract to rebuild The Wellington Elementary School in

Belmont as a certified Massachusetts High Performance Green School. The design incorporates numerous sustainable concepts, such as the use of geothermal wells for heating and cooling, high-efficiency mechanical systems and significant window areas to increase daylighting.

**Stantec** received a Boston Society of Landscape Architects Honor Award for its landscape architectural and permitting role in the NewBridge on the Charles Intergenerational Community project in Dedham. The firm's new work includes masterplanning and design services for a mixed-use development near Atlanta; environmental and aesthetic impact testimony for EOS Ventures' proposed 15-acre solar facility in Pownall, Vermont; landscape architectural services for the Heritage Field/Ruppert Plaza design in New York; and civil engineering and landscape architectural services for The Roosevelt Elementary School replacement project in Bridgeport, Connecticut with Antinozzi Associates Architecture & Interiors.

**VHB/Vanasse Hangen Brustlin** is collaborating with Steffian Bradley Architects on the expansion of Anna Jacques Hospital in Newburyport. The firm is providing masterplanning support to Perkins + Will for the former Youville Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, now Spaulding Hospital Cambridge; performing an environmental assessment for an expansion of Dorchester House Multi-Service Center with Spagnolo Gissness & Associates; working with Filarski Architecture on a new facility for the East Bay Met School in Newport, Rhode Island; completing a transportation masterplan for the University of Richmond in Virginia; and working with BCWH Architects on a masterplanning term contract at Virginia Commonwealth University.

## Fame

Submit your news for Fame online at [architects.org/submission](http://architects.org/submission).

## The BSA ChapterLetter

The BSA ChapterLetter is published bimonthly by the Boston Society of Architects/AIA. The ChapterLetter is a service provided by AIA members in Massachusetts to the profession, the public and everyone else with a sense of humor or an interest in 21st-century America. For subscription information, contact [membership@architects.org](mailto:membership@architects.org) or 617-951-1433 x228.

Letters to the editor, suggestions, criticism and encouragement are welcome. Appropriate submissions are edited and published as space, temperament and prejudices permit. For complete submission specifications and deadlines, visit [architects.org/chapterletter](http://architects.org/chapterletter).

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# To build or not to build: The Rose Kennedy Greenway

**MUCH HAS BEEN SAID** about the Rose Kennedy Greenway and its perceived successes and failures, as well as what may or may not be constructed on or around its parcels.

Recently, the BSA polled the future of Boston design—students and recent graduates from area architecture and design schools—on their vision for the future of the Greenway. We asked, “What should Boston do with the Greenway?” without consideration to permitting and political realities.

## Connect the neighborhood dots

“The Greenway runs parallel to the Harbor Walk for a long stretch, and the two parks should work in conjunction with one another to revitalize the Fort Point Channel area,” says Elsiana Zhaka, who graduated last year with a BArch degree from the Boston Architectural College (BAC).

Caroline Shannon LEED AP, who just completed her first year of the MArch program at Harvard GSD, agrees: “The Greenway could be integral to the continued development of the Harborwalk—and potentially connected to the Emerald Necklace and the Freedom Trail—serving to strengthen Boston’s existing network of parks and pedestrian zones.”

“There are significant opportunities to capitalize on our existing manmade landscape,” says Zhaka. “For example, from West Fourth Street to Kneeland Street, I-93 still separates South Boston, the South End and Chinatown from each other, the rest of the city and the water. Incorporating the Broadway Bridge into a new park system would connect two highly populated neighborhoods—South Boston and the South End—with the Chinatown stretch of the Greenway.”

## Give biking a boost

“It was a poetic move to replace the Central Artery with a more pedestrian-oriented green artery, as Boston is a pedestrian-scaled city that deserves to be experienced as such,” says Colin Booth, who just graduated from the BAC with a BArch.

“However, the Greenway has not yet reached its potential symbolically or functionally,” Booth continues. “I am always struck by the intense bike culture in this city, despite it being a dangerous place to ride. Considering recent studies on how to improve the network of safe and efficient bikeways, the Greenway seems the perfect opportunity to encourage travel via bicycle.”

## Go even greener

Erin Kelly, a landscape architecture student at Harvard GSD, proposes a way that the Greenway could help the City of Boston meet its ambitious goal of planting 100,000 trees citywide.

“Planting one tree, never mind thousands, is a lot of work and requires a staging ground,” says Kelly. “If we used the Greenway near South Station as an urban tree farm, it could give Boston one of the most thoughtful and vigorous urban-canopy programs in the country.” Raised beds could overcome the engineering site restrictions, according to Kelly, “and it’s not just a Walmart-scale nursery solution: for example, the trees that Peter Walker is using in the 9/11 memorial are essentially grown in containers.”



Nodes at Greenway Parkway and cross bike lanes to offer storage and other supporting facilities.



Boston Transportation Department Bike Plan proposed locations for evaluation.

Ian Downing, who received his MArch from Wentworth Institute of Technology in May, would like to see the Greenway used to advance urban agriculture.

“I’d be interested in incorporating vertical farming into the Greenway—especially since it could be a way to tie the less-active areas to the restaurants of the North End and the existing farmers’ markets downtown,” says Downing.

## Think bigger than buildings

“The trend in the past few years has been to look at the Greenway as a prime location for new development, with a focus on buildings that benefit the public,” says Kevin MacNichol, a fourth-year BS in Architecture student at Northeastern University. “But [that] doesn’t make them inherently appropriate for an urban site like this.”

Kevin Horne, a 2010 BAC graduate with a MArch, proposes building a walk-through eco-machine—a practical, real technology developed and well-tested by John Todd.

“Not only would such a greenhouse offer a warm place for Bostonians and tourists to explore midwinter, it would teach the public about how a waste system can feed crops and plants,” says Horne. “It would give a nod to the role of park as infrastructure in Boston’s history: Olmsted originally developed his plan for the Emerald Necklace as a respite from the city as well as for dealing with how stormwater and sewage problems were making the Fens a swampy breeding ground for disease.”

*For more ideas and to share your thoughts, visit [architects.org/chapterletter](http://architects.org/chapterletter).*

Above: This image by Colin Booth and Grant Scott suggests a few of the things that recent BAC graduate Booth sees as critical to encouraging cycling along the Greenway: a ribbon of bikeway that at times rises above the pesky cross streets and integrated pavilions that offer retail space and bike facilities.